

NEWS UPDATE

**Shelby County Office of Preparedness-Memphis & Shelby County
Emergency Management Agency-Bob Nations, Director**

**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
(901) 515-2525**



September 5, 2008

Evening Update

What's New Since the Last Update?

- **More than 900 FEMA-assisted evacuees are boarding an Amtrak train this evening for their trip home to the Gulf Coast. MATA buses took the evacuees to the train station from various shelters at Memphis Park Services community centers.**
- **Should there be more people than seats available on the train, there is a contingency plan. EMA Director Bob Nations and the Emergency Service Functions team made arrangements through FEMA and TEMA (Tennessee Emergency Management Agency) to have buses available to get evacuees on the way home tonight.**
- **Early tomorrow morning, the last group of evacuees who originally came to Memphis on the train will leave for home. Those with "special needs" who have been residing at the Ed Rice Community Center will leave for home by charter bus at approximately 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.**
- **Many of the "special needs" evacuees have medical conditions. The journey by bus will be faster and more convenient than the train trip.**
- **The EMA will assist any evacuee remaining in Memphis after tomorrow with their needs. Any persons needing assistance may call (901) 515-2525. FEMA urges all evacuees to keep their receipts for lodging and other expenses. Here are some helpful numbers for evacuees provided by the *Louisiana Recovery Authority*:**
 - 1. Safe Return to Parish:** Call 1-866-288-2485 or log on to emergency.louisiana.gov.
 - 2. Road Closures:** 1-888-762-3511 (out-of-state) or 511(in-state).
 - 3. Find family in a shelter:** 1-800-957-1601.
 - 4. Sheltered Pet Information:** 1-800-558-9741
 - 5. Food Stamp Questions:** 1-888-524-3578
 - 6. Report Price Gouging:** 1-800-351-4889
 - 7. FEMA Assistance Line 1-800-621-FEMA**

(End of Release)